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TWO CENTS.

EXPLOSION LEAVES DOZEN TOWNS IN SHATTERED STATE

Blast at Munition Plant at Morgan, N. J., Works Ruin for Miles Around.

MANY WORKERS DEAD; MORE BLASTS FOLLOW; FIRES RAGING

NEW YORK, October 5.—After more than eighteen hours largest number for any similar period of terror, with scenes graphically resembling those in wardevastated France, a dozen towns in northern New Jersey were in a shattered condition this afternoon as a consequence of the munition disaster which visited the section last night with a trail of tremendous explosions and raging fires which continued throughout today.

At the \$18,000,000 shell-making plant—one of the greatest industries of its kind in the world-of T. A. Gillespie & Co., situated at Morgan, N. J., as one of a community of manufactories producing ammunition for the American and allied armies, an greatly during the normal rush hours. explosion from an unknown cause scattered firebrands among tons of trinitrotoluol, the most powerful explosive known. hospitals at Elizabeth, Rahway and other towns.

Felt for Fifty Miles.

Felt for Fifty Miles.

Detonation followed upon detonation and these repeatedly shook the terrain for a radius of fifty miles, this territory including New York city, where buildings were shaken and glass was shattered much as the Elack Tors Island explosion in the harbor here rocked the metropolis two years ago.

With the situation at Morgan this afternoon such that firemen, soldiers, sailors and civilian workers found it impossible to penetrate to a zone within two miles of the Gillespie plant, no definite estimate could be made of the number of persons who perished last night and in the early morning hours.

The flames burned unopposed at the Gillespie shops and were threatening with destruction two other great munition plants in the vicinity.

Unofficial estimates placed the dead at upward of 137, based upon statements of persons who claimed they knew of the destruction of various groups of employes and firemen during certain periods of explosion. The night shift was known to number 2.000 persons, and the ones accounted for this afternoon were numbered only in scores, While it was considered possible that the loss of life would be found to be reckoned by the hundreds, officers of the Gillespie converse, averaged only the following statement: "We cannot conceive how it can last much longer. The large magazines of T. N. T. are buried in a bank of the Celesequake creek and we feel are safe."

Perth Amboy and South Amboy salons were under military control. State guards and a battery of field artillery were doing guard duty.

Occasional explosions were taking place at 10 a. m., shaking surrounding towns. Vice President Yates of the Gillespie Company gave out the following statement: "We cannot conceive how it can last much longer. The large magazines of T. N. T. are buried in a bank of the Chesequake creek and we feel are safe."

Perth Amboy and South Amboy was devastanted and a battery of field artillery were doing guard duty.

Occasional explosions from trinitrotoluol magazines, were leaving that city by the t

Like Echoes of Artillery.

To residents of New York, Jersey City, Newark and adjoining districts the continued rumbling of explosions the continued rumbling of explosions seemed as the echoes of an artillery battle not far distant. This illusion was heightened by the appearance during the forenoon today of scores of refugees who poured into the cities in search of shelter and food. Men, women and children, frightened and explants. Hundreds of soldiers, sailors, Gillespie employes and civilian volunteers were engaged in a desperate fight to avert an even greater disashausted, entered New York by ferry ter. It was feared that if either of and subway.

and subway.

Many panes of glass were broken in be explosions which would tumble business and residential districts in into ruins the many buildings already

that approximately 4.060 persons are arriving at one of the towns said these were in need of food dispatched ambulances, motor cauteens and ed ambulances, motor canteens and hovering over the Gillespie plant. automobiles containing physicians, nurses and social workers into north-ern New Jersey. Headquarters was established at Perth Amboy, with reestablished at Perth Amboy, with relief workers prepared to erect tent colonies for the homeless or to arrange with New York hotels to throw

Beginning at 10 o'clock last night explosions occurred all night long at the damage done in every home. shell-loading plant of T. A. Gillespie & Co., at Morgan, N. J. While unofficial estimates placed the number of known of heroism and disregard of danger. A

The unofficial figures were based upon the danger zone. As his task was comstatements of persons who declared that pleted a shell struck him and he was ninety-four men perished in the first killed. ninety-four men perished in the first explosion last night and that twenty-Donohue, and eighteen guards at the (filespie plant were blown to pieces when one of the buildings exploded at 3 a.m.

Say Workers Escaped.

Another semi-official estimate placed the death list at fifteen, with a declara-tion that virtually the entire working force except a few in the building where the explosion occurred fled from the works ahead of the succeeding blasts. The American Red Cross has begun relief work among refugees and injured.

Firemen were fighting the flames, and scattered shells were exploding and all energies were devoted to averting a worse disaster. The took of trying to learn how many were killed and who were saved had to be left in abeyance. Thousands of peo-ple had been hurried away from Morgan and surrounding towns during the night, leaving many communi-ties today virtually without resident populations, and it was considered probable that with these went many of the Gillespie employes as yet un-

accounted for.

Telephone communication with MorN. J., the Navy Department was in-Telephone communication with Morgan was suspended by the repeated concussions, and this situation made the obtaining of adequate details almost impossible. Military guards were thrown around the plant, and all newspaper men were barred from the vicinity of the explosion. The company's officials were engaged this forenoon in raking almost futilely anid the confusion to determine the whereabouts of the employes. No examination of the ruins has been made. Here and there a body was drawn out. The injured were being cared for in public buildings and at private homes, and scores of those who were more seriously hurt were being hurried to

27 NEW DEATHS MARK INFLUENZA SPREAD IN CAPITAL

Dr. W. E. Turton, Vital Statistics Clerk, Succumbs to Epidemic.

130 STREET CAR MEN AMONG CITY'S STRICKEN

Commissioners Take More Measures to Prevent Spread of the Disease.

ng gains in the District today Twenty-seven deaths were reported during the last twenty-four hours, the since the start of the epidemic.

Dr. W. E. Turton, clerk in the vital statistics bureau of the health department, was among those who succumbed to the disease.

Street car companies reported 130 motormen and conductors incapacitated for work today as a result of the wide sweep of the malady. This left more than a hundred cars unmanned. But the "staggered hour" plan operated to reduce congestion

Open-Air Church Services. Many churches will hold open-air

services tomorrow, according to report made to Commissioner Brown-

low.

The Commissioners have taken practically all precautionary measures open to them in the way of closing the ordinary channels through which influenza germs circulate.

While today's death report was discouraging, they believe that the steps taken to check the disease must soon lead to an improvement in the situation.

Commissioner Brownlow again today called the attention of the managements of the street car companies operating in the District to his rements of persons who claimed they knew of the destruction of various groups of employes and firemen during certain periods of explosion. The ing certain periods of explosions in the spread of the germs and bacilli of the disease among the passengers open, and thus prevent ing passengers open, and thus prevent in passengers open, and thus prevent

there is danger there also. Physicians Must Report Cases. Beds and Cots Rushed to Victims. Owing to the fact that the influenza

Stories of Heroism Told.

were kept away from the fire-swept ruins only by the military guards. The cause of the disaster is not

known, but several investigations are

OFF BARNEGAT

The American Mallory line cargo

steamship San Saba was sunk yester-

range with New York hotels to throw open their doors. Hot soup, sand-wishes and other food was served to the hungry.

Various Estimates of Life Lost.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., October 5.—
Beginning at 10 o'clock last night ex
Inght with appeals for cots for burn-others, it has been impossible for the health officer to give out any estimate of how many cases of the disease there were loaded with mattresses, blankets and small beds and were speeded to various towns where relief work was being concentrated. Every hour brought more doctors and nurses.

Reports from all towns within a radius of ten miles tell of the walls of small buildings being cracked and of the commission on training camp acentertainments until after the langer of the contagion has passed.

Out of all the confusion came stories Druggists Are Rushed With Work fatalities at 137 at 10:30 a.m., an officer of the Gillespie company expressed the opinion that the death list would prove to be much smaller.

The unofficial figures were based upon statements of persons who declared that the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone. As his task was compared to the danger zone and coupled to the train and took the cars out of the danger zone. As his task was compared to the compared to the city is flooded under an avalanche of prescriptions for medicines for the treatment of patients with the disease and as a result hours are required before a prescription can be filled. The drug-prescription can be filled. the danger zone. As his task was completed a shell struck him and he was killed.

In contrast to thousands of townspeople who fied, the wives and other relatives of employes hurried into the vicinity of the Gillesple plant and became frantic upon learning that hundreds of the workers might have been killed. Throughout the night these persons refused to leave the district and were kept away from the fire-swept ruins only by the military guards.

making fruitless appeals in the advertising columns of the local papers for registered pharmacists.

The special service established in the service, stablished in the service, established in the service in the advertising columns of the local papers for registered pharmacists.

The special service established in the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the reception of calls for trained nurses from the service, established in the health department for the health depart

> under way today. Rumors were circulated that spies or alien enemies were responsible, but these were promptly discounted by officials. Forty Scientists on One Job

> > These men, each skilled along a particular line, have been called to Washington for an imcalled to Washington for an important war work. At their head is a man whose power is prodigious, although it is not found in an act of Congress. He may alter the trade currents of Europe and South America without question; he has the matter of war transportation at his finger tips.

James B. Morrow has written an unusually interesting article on the forty scientists and their

work. In the new magazine of The Sunday Star



BASE THE CAMPAIGN ON SUPPORT OF WAR

Plea of Democrats and Republicans, Respectively, for Control of Congress.

LEADERS IMPRESS VIEWS

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.

Copyright, 1918, by N. Y. Evening Post, Inc. Politics, like the proverbial rich and proverbial poor, is always with us in quest sent them the first day of the Washington, but under the veneer of influenza epidemic to keep the win-dows and doors of all cars transport-

work of rescue a task fraught with the greatest peril to rescuers.

Other Plants Threatened.

At 11 o'clock flames and sparks from the Gillespie plant were threatbeing operated under this open door and window order, regardless of weather conditions. Health Officer Fowler makes an Health Officer Fowler makes an earnest appeal to the general public to remain away from private and church funerals. He says that for the public safety it would be best for all to follow the suggestion, and only members of the immediate families should attend private or public funerals.

Such statements as have been issued, and such talk as is heard here reveal very plainly that the democratic party, as the case may be.

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Such statements as have been issued, and such talk as is heard here than the democratic party and the democratic party as the case may be. husiness and residential districts in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The damage in Staten Island was reported especially severe.

As a measure of precaution, the authorities ordered the evacuation of all thorities ordered the points out that where at pr

thousands of places in the civilian.
as well as military branches of the
government, are not doing their patriotic utmost to hasten the day when
Germany shall come suppliant to the
allies for a merciful peace
And Representative Ferris of Michigan the democratic national chair-

crats voted for the Cooper amenament, involving a similar surrender of American rights on the high seas.

Mr. Ferris argues that he wouldn't make an issue of this, only the republicans are trying to make it appear that they alone know how to support the President in war measures. As a matter of fact, the republicans very chrewdly make answer by saving that sentative Claude Kitchin, the demo-cratic leader, and Representative Dent of Alabama, democratic chair-man of the House military affairs ommittee. These men were against republicans against conscription and favor of volunteering.

grounds must involve an accusation that the men who conscientiously opteering were not as anxious to win the war as those who voted for conscrip-

An Involved Question.

The question is so involved that it hardly will yield an issue for either

In the hope of getting something spectacular which will appeal to the imagination, both parties have thus far ignored the respective records of the leaders of both parties in those domestic questions like taxation, water power conservation and legislation against profiteering where the common man can make up his mind as to whether he will get more selfishness or less selfishness, more efficiency or less efficiency, or no appreciable advantage one way or another and (Continued on Eleventh Page.

STAY AT HOME TOMORROW

You are urged to remain a home tomorrow afternoon. A volunteer canvasser will call at your house to solicit your subscription to the nation's fourtl

Secretary of the Treasury Mc-Adoo, who will be one of the house-to-house canvassers, may call on you, so don't fail to be on hand to receive him and give him your subscription.

District Liberty Loan Committee.

ALL URGED TO STAY HOME TOMORROW

though not less powerful or assertive. 3,500 Bond Solicitors, Mr. McAdoo Included, Will Make Personal Calls.

faces at each other and planning to HOURS, 1 TO 6, AFTERNOON

Every householder in Washington is abroad urged to remain at home tomorrow afternoon and be ready to hand his subscription to the volunteer house-tohouse canvasser, who will call some

Secretary McAdoo of the Treasury pushed the lines of the allies well forhas enlisted as a member of one of ward to a considerably wider depth. In the 200 canvassing teams and will the Argonne forest the America ring doorbells and solicit pledges ing his along with the more than 3,500 other patriotic men and women of Washington who have volunteered to en-

"more vigorous prosecution of the made public by the local committee. In urging the residents of Washingthat it is possible that the Secretary might call at their home and thus afford them the pleasure and honor of purchasing a bond from him and rereceipt with his name signed to it.

signed to it.

In announcing that Secretary McAdoo had offered his services as a
house-to-house canvasser the local
committee said he was especially en-And Representative Ferris of Michigan, the democratic national chairman, issues a long statement pointing out that thirty-two republicans and only sixteen democrats voted against war with Germany, 103 republicans and only thirty-two democrats voted to surrender Americans rights when the McLemore resolution was voted on, while seventy-six republicans and only forty-seven democrats voted for the Cooper amendment, involving a similar surrender s staking all of its hopes on the nouse-to-house canvass.

Workers Expect Success.

From the tone and spirit of the several thousand men and women who are to be engaged in this big undershrewdly make answer by saying that taking tomorrow, the local committee day taking appeals for the services of the trained nurses, who are prompt. It has not attacking the logalty of the demoly sent to the afflicted homes to act

(Continued on Second Page.)

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(Continued on Second Page.) ton will be able on Monday morning to hoist its new honor flag, denoting that this city has subscribed to its quota—\$27,608,000. quota—\$27,608,000.

The headquarters of the local loan committee, at 1418-H street, presented a busy scene today. The various offices and hallways were packed with

There may be some value in making an issue of certain personalities which haven't handled legislation in Congress to the satisfaction of the country, but to attack the men who voted against the draft on partisan grounds must involve an accusation. men and women who had call ing their respective districts and regarding the details of solicitation. Charts of various sections of the city with districts marked off have been furnished to each team captain, who in turn has assigned a certain number of the sections of the control of the section of the ber of houses to each member of his team. Each captain also was furnished with a number of subscription cards equal to the number of houses in his territory, a supply of honor flags, bond buttons, and a large lettered sign to place on his automobile to show that it is used on liberty loan business and is therefore entitled to disregard "gasless Sunday."

Canvass Well Planned.

The committee has been exceptional-The committee has been exceptionally thorough in planning the canvass, and considering the determined and persistent manner in which the canvassers will enter upon the task the members of the committee doubt very much whether there will be many homes in Washington which will not Continued on Second I age.)

TROOPS ARE MOVING DESPITE EPIDEMIC

Gen. March Accomplishes **Embarkations to France by** Rearranging Divisions.

WAR NEWS GOOD, HE SAYS

000 cases of influenza in the military on of troops overseas continued last nonth at the rate of 250,000 a month, Gen. March, chief of staff, announced

The uninterrupted shipment of fightng men despite the prevalence of the epidemic is made possible by rear- being further endangered by the ranging the units intended for trans- French attack northwest of Rheims. porting and picking out well men from different camps. It was inferred man positions along the Aisne canal from Gen. March's statement that the with great vigor. Already he has the Germans in hard combats Friday existence of the malady will not be

rom all battle fronts during the past week has continued excellent. Since last Saturday three distinct drives have not only held the enemy, notwithstanding his strong reinforcement, but have actually driven forward to the Kriemhilde line, where the enemy is now The Americans have taken a position

gage in this work as a means of helping this city to raise its fourth liberty loan quota.

Wr. McAdoo Way Be a Caller

The Americans have taken a position which threatens the enemy's most important artery of communication and are in fact only eighteen miles away from the railway line, which, once captured, would cut off the German facili-Republican View Expressed.

Representative Fess of Ohio, the republican chairman, declares that "more vigorous prosecution of the"

Mr. McAdoo May Be a Caller.

Just what team Secretary McAdoo West of the German facilities for supplying their troops in the southern sectors of the line.

West of the forest of Argonne the French, together with the second American division, have driven forward and now hold hills which threaten the German railway communications south of Virzieres. In Flanders the allies have pushed forward and over the Hindenburg line. A salient ten miles deep has been developed in Flanders. Cambrai is being enveloped by the British, who also are within five miles of Lille.

Belgian Territory Recaptured.

More than seventy-five square miles of Belgian territory have been recap-tured from the Germans by the opera-

under command of Gen. Stewart, com-prise the 339th Infantry, part of the 310th Engineers and the necessary some of the troops in France, Gen. March said that the 83d trench mor-

WASHINGTON FLIER DIES

Ry the Associated Press ed and a fourth injured about noon

The dead are: Theodore Marrs of Washington, D. C.; Roy J. McNaughton, Onaira, Ill., and Frank H. Smith By the Associated Press. of Tasley, S. C. The injured officer is Lieut. A. L. Seely of Brockway, Mont. All were stationed at Taliaferro

AUSTRO-GERMAN TROOPS **DEFEATED BY SERBIANS**

LONDON, October 5 .- Austro-Gernan troops have been defeated in sued them toward the eld Serbo-Turkish frontier, says a Serbian official statement of Friday.

YANKEES SWEEPING ON FOR BIG GAINS IN MEUSE REGION

Americans Already Have Advanced More Than Mile. Capture Several Towns.

FLANDERS COAST SQON FREE; FRENCH GAIN EVERYWHERE

PARIS, October 5, 1:10 p.m.—American troops attacked again this morning between the Meuse and the Argonne on an extended front. The advance at some points has reached more than a mile, and several villages have been taken.

FOE FORCED TO QUIT VALUABLE GROUND.

French and American troops are smashing into the German positions in Champagne and have forced the enemy to withdraw from valuable ground in the hill country near the Suippe river.

East and west of the Argonne and northwest of Rheims there has been heavy fighting to the advantage of the allies. On the northern sectors hostilities apparently have quieted down for the moment.

By advancing northward over the heights of Blanc Mont and the Medeah farm the French and Americans placed the Germans in the eastern part of the hill country about Moronvilliers in a dangerous position. To prevent being outflanked the enemy retired hurriedly toward the River Arnes. Just west of the Suippe the French are moving toward the important height of Moronvilliers.

Germans in Deep Salient.

Between the Suippe and Rheims to he west the Germans are still in a deep salient, and the indications are being further endangered by the French attack northwest of Rhelms.

Gen. Berthelot is attacking the German positions along the Aisne canal the British and French continue their vigorous pressure, after havexistence of the malady will not be permitted to cripple the constant reinforcement of the American soldiers inforcement of the American soldiers

guns.

Germans Try to Stay Gouraud.

Push Into Kriemhild Positions.

East of the forest, after having taken important positions, the Americans are pressing northward into the Kriemhild defense system. The that they will retire from it altogether now that they have given way on the especially on the American right, but on the center and left the Americans on the center and left the Americans are successfully following up their

of the canal. Beyond the canal is lairly open country over which the French could move to take in the rear the enemy salient east of Rheims. In the enemy salient east of Rheims. In this region by British and East five days Gen. Berthelot has taken 2,500 prisoners and thirty-one taken 2,500 prisoners and thirty-one

their withdrawal movement, but apparently not as speedily as in the last few days. Allied troops are reported within four miles of this im-West of the Argonne the Germans are fighting with desperation to stay the advance of Gen. Gouraud toward their important communication lines. Heavy counter attacks were flung against the French line south of Monthols, but to no avail.

German Left Flank Retires UnderFranco-American Blows

By the Associated Press. PARIS, October 5.—Under the pres-sure of French and American attacks

French official communique, issued toin Champagne the Germans have retired on their left flank and given up territory east of the Monts, according territory east of the Monts, according territory east of the monts according territory east of the monts according territory east of the monts according to the enemy. Both artilleries are firing upon it. to the war office announcement today. West of the Suippe the French, keeping in touch with the German rear guards, have reached the heights southeast of Moronvilliers.

The French and American troops in Champagne have gained further

French in Big Advance. PARIS, October 4.—In the fighting in Champagne the French have advanced about two and one-half miles north of Auberive and about five miles a situation behind the German lines.

Blow After Blow Dealt Foe.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, October 4 (by Associated Press).-The four great battles that have been in progress since Septemtions of the past week.

In the Balkans the Serbians are in contact with the Austrians near Veranye. In Albania the Austrians are retiring, followed by the Italians in close pursuit. The naval engagement at Durazzo, Gen. March said, was of importance in the general strategy of the operations in this region, which must of necessity follow the coast line.

U. S. Troops at Archangel.

The American troops at Archangel, under command of Gen. Stewart, comprise the 339th Infantry, part of the said the necessary field medical and the necessary field medical and the necessary forms. The first have reached the outskirts of Bermericourt, east of the canal. Violent fighting continues north of Blanc Mont in the direction of the River Arnes.

Cross Aisne Canal.

Along the Aisne canal, in the region of Rheims, and all continue with great intensity. Blow after blow is being dealt the Germans vigorously, and have crossed the canal at several points. The French have reached the outskirts of Bermericourt, east of the canal. Violent fighting continues north of St. Quentin. In desperate fighting the French have driven the enemy from the heights southeast of Chardon-Violent fighting continues and the lengths southeast of Chardon-Violent fighting continues are many indications that the Germans expected that exhaustion would have obliged the allies to stop for a Hindenburg and subsidiary lines.

The Germans knew where the the canal was a fight of the contact of the continue with great intensity. Blow after blow is being dealt the Germans in their strongholds of the Hindenburg and subsidiary lines.

The endurance to six by the entry into action of Gen. Debeney's ment around St. Quentin and Gen. Berthe-lot's forces northwest of Rheims, and all continue with great intensity. Blow after ber 20 from Flanders to the Meuse The Germans knew where they were to have maintained their gains in heavy fighting east of the Argonne forest.

Northwest of Rheims in the last five days the French have taken more than tar forces have not been in action.

The Germans knew where they were to be attacked, but they appear not to have rightly gauged the reserve forces the allies were to throw into the fray. This hypothesis partly explains the German confusion that has been noticeable at various times and places lately. places lately.

The Germans have been obliged to

FORT WORTH, Tex., October 5.— Haig Gains Above St. Quentin; today when two planes collided near Fighting Is of Furious Nature

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, October 5.—In the region north of St. Quentin British troops made substantial progress yesterday southeast of Beaurevoir and north of Le Catelet. Field Marshal Haig's report today says that 800 prisoners were captured.

The British line northwest of Le Catelet was advanced slightly Friday night.

Germans Attack Six Times.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, October 4.—There has been fighting of the most furfous nature along the British front today. This has been true especially along the Beaurevoir line, in the region east of Le Catelet.

The last strong line of the Hinden
The last strong line of the Hinden-